Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a surface-enhanced Raman scattering surface comprising anodizing an aluminum or aluminum alloy substrate with reversed polarity current to form pores of anodized oxide on the substrate, and electrodepositing silver or copper into the pores of the anodic oxide film.

2. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the pores have a diameter of from about 10 to about 40 nm.

3. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the depth of the pores is from about 0.1 to about 2 microns.

4. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1 wherein the concentration of the pores on the substrate is up to about 10^{10} per cm^2.

5. (Withdrawn) A surface for use in Surface-Enhanced Raman Scattering comprising a substrate made of anodized aluminum or anodized aluminum alloy onto which silver or copper has been electrodeposited to form needle-shaped metal particles on the substrate.

6. (Withdrawn) The surface according to claim 5 wherein the pores have a diameter of from about 10 to about 40 nm.

7. (Withdrawn) The surface according to claim 5 wherein the depth of the pores is from about 0.1 to about 2 microns.

8. (Withdrawn) The surface according to claim 5 wherein the concentration of the pores on the substrate is up to about 10^{10} per cm^2.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for cleaning the substrate according to claim 1 comprising adding a copper or a silver solution into a cell and applying a pulsed current of reversed polarity to a SERS-active surface and an auxiliary silver or copper electrode;

Draining the solution from the cell and flushing the cell; and

Draining and drying the surface of the substrate.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~10~~ 13 wherein the surface contains copper particles.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~11~~ 14 wherein the surface contains silver particles.

13. (New) In a method for detecting an organic compound analyte in a sample by Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy, the improvement comparing using as an electrode a surface prepared by anodizing an aluminum or aluminum alloy substrate with reversed polarity current to form pores of anodized aluminum on the substrate, and electrodepositing silver or copper into the pore of the anodic oxide film.